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11 May 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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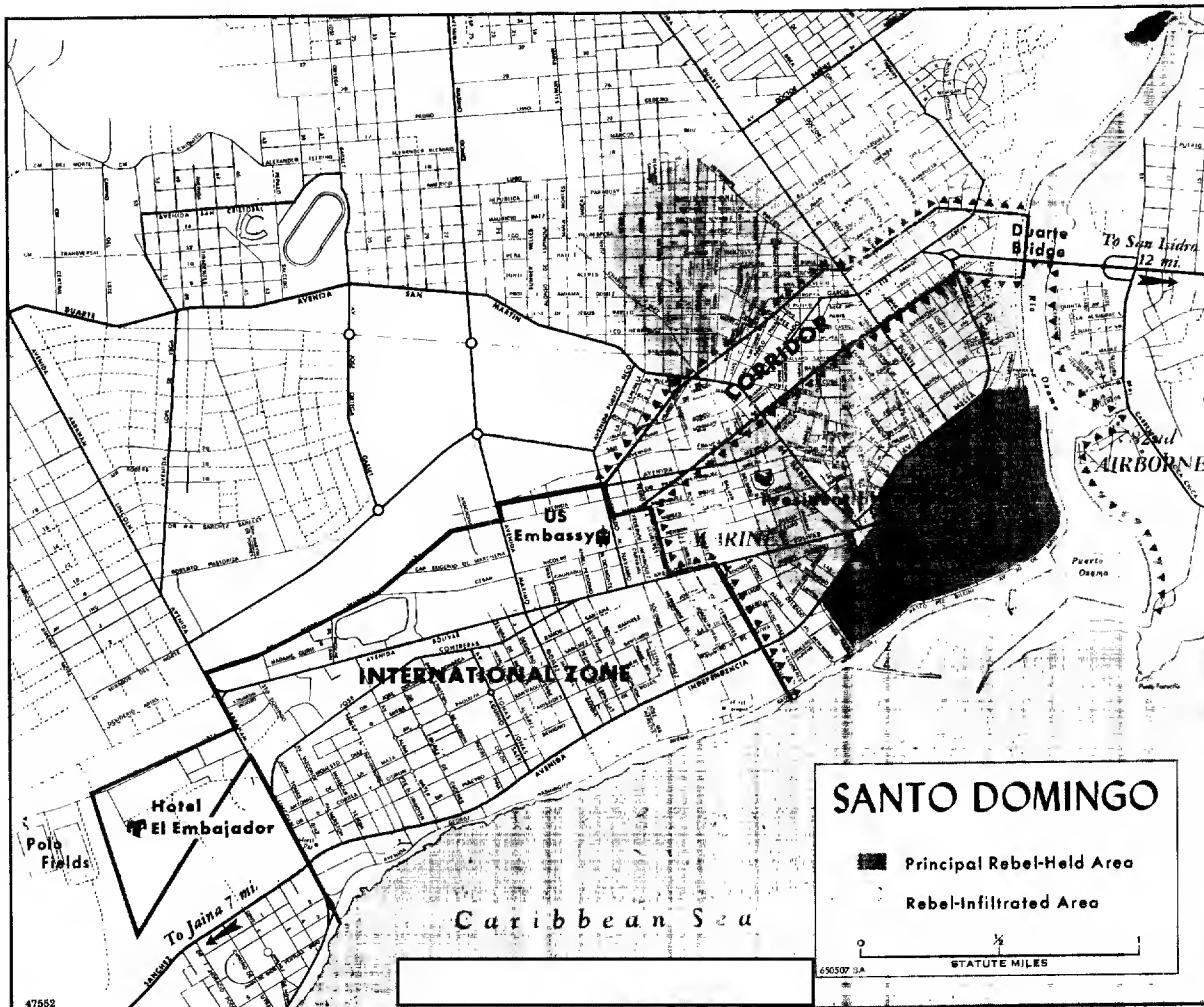
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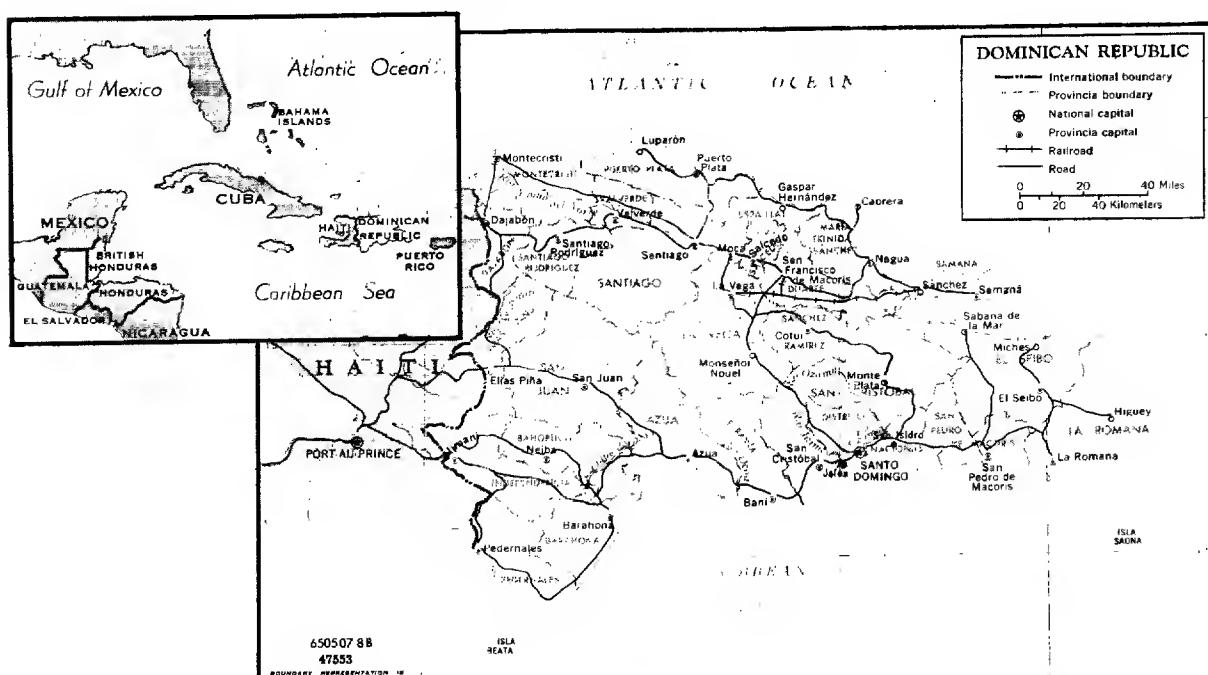
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***Dominican Republic:** (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT) Recent political moves by the contending Dominican forces still appear to be producing only inconclusive results.

The military situation in the capital also remains fairly static, with sniper fire continuing against US-held positions.

Neither Caamano's "constitutionalist" regime nor the loyalist "Government of National Reconstruction" (GNR) headed by Antonio Imbert appears to have progressed appreciably toward consolidating political power yesterday. The results of the GNR drive to win workers' confidence by paying back wages appear minimal thus far. For their part, the rebels reportedly were so fearful of getting a poor turnout at a "great mass rally" scheduled to take place in the capital yesterday afternoon that they cancelled it shortly before it was to begin.

Much of whatever public support that may have been gained by the Imbert government as the result of its 9 May retirement of eight discredited military leaders probably will be withdrawn by its failure to dislodge loyalist General Wessin. Despite earlier indications that Wessin was planning to retire as of yesterday, he told Imbert last night that he could not "abandon his troops" and would not step down until

matters were settled with the Caamano forces. Wessin's continued presence can be expected to work to the detriment of the Imbert government, since Wessin has become the symbol to many Dominicans of an entire way of life that they seek to change.

Yesterday's decision by the Organization of American States (OAS) to give the previously established five-nation committee the authority for setting up an Inter-American Armed Force in the Dominican Republic has now cleared the way for the force to begin forming. Members of the OAS committee are expected to return to Santo Domingo today. Although no Latin American troop contingents have yet arrived on Dominican soil, several countries evidently are preparing to dispatch units shortly.

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Bolivia: Heavy fighting between well-armed miners and army troops will probably result if military intervention in the nationalized mines takes place this week as presently planned.

[The junta, headed by Barrientos, intends to decree a state of emergency in the mines on 12 or 13 May and simultaneously send soldiers into the mining enclaves,]

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[Mine leadership is generally extreme leftist, pro-Castro and Communist, and the miners themselves have a long history of military action in defense of their "rights" and territorial strongholds. The miners are capable of strong resistance against army troops.]

[If the government intends to move on the miners, it must be ready at the same time to cope with violent demonstrations by urban factory workers, whose federation has a solidarity pact with the miners.]

[Political parties may also take advantage of any disorders to express their opposition to the government. Party leaders are aware that Barrientos staged last week's peasant disorders as a pretext for the 7 May announcement postponing elections indefinitely. They regard that move as the first step toward imposition of a military dictatorship.]

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France-NATO: [De Gaulle's intentions toward NATO and the North Atlantic Treaty are becoming more clear.]

[According to a Foreign Ministry official, the development of French policy against NATO has accelerated in the last few weeks. It is described in government circles as a "stone by stone" dismantling of the structure. The official emphasized that De Gaulle's policy was aimed at both the organization and the treaty, with a distinction between the two no longer possible.]

[The official believes that De Gaulle is thinking of replacing the present multilateral treaty relationship with a series of bilateral treaties. In January the US Embassy in Paris reported its impression that De Gaulle was thinking along these lines.]

[The timing of a French move remains uncertain. The official believes that nothing serious will happen before the December presidential elections, but he warned that the time for US counteraction was limited.]

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NOTES

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United Nations: Prospects for early restoration of the UN's solvency appear dim. France is reluctant to make any voluntary contributions until a satisfactory solution for future peacekeeping has been worked out. A French delegate told the US mission that he is under careful instructions to remain silent on the problem, but that Paris would shortly explain its position in a new statement awaiting clearance from Couve de Murville. Discussions on the draft Ethiopian resolution calling for covering past debts by voluntary contributions had raised hopes that such a solution would be achieved before the Committee of 33 reports to the secretary general on 15 June or before the General Assembly reconvenes on 1 September.

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Yemen: A conference of republican tribal leaders last week affirmed its support for the "third force" government of Prime Minister Numan. This development would appear to open the door for new peace talks with the royalists, and possibly even for an eventual accommodation between Nasir and King Faysal over the Yemen question. The Numan government is maneuvering very cautiously, however, and any steps toward a settlement are likely to be slow.

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